



For Immediate Release
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SAINT PAUL SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD STAR LOANS AND GRANTS

Over \$1 million available for capital improvement projects

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA (January 18, 2011) The City of Saint Paul's Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Program is seeking applicants for the 2011 loan and grant funding cycle. This year's program kicks off with an application workshop on February 9, 2011 where information about the 2011 STAR Program will be presented. The Neighborhood STAR Program awards loans and grants in the amount of \$5,000 or more annually through a competitive application process. Eligible projects include capital improvement projects in Saint Paul neighborhoods that further economic, commercial, or residential development in Saint Paul and must be matched, \$1 to \$1, with private resources. The program is funded by revenue from the City of Saint Paul half-cent sales tax.

"These loans are about strengthening every neighborhood across Saint Paul by investing in local organizations. Whether you're a nonprofit, for-profit or public entity, these loans and grants provide groups with the resources necessary to take their organization to the next level. I encourage all groups that qualify to apply and do your part to create growth in Saint Paul," Mayor Chris Coleman said.

Neighborhood STAR applicants and interested parties are encouraged to attend the Neighborhood STAR application workshop on February 9, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Como Zoo Visitor's Center, 1225 Estabrook Drive, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103. Neighborhood STAR Program applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on March 31, 2011 to Planning and Economic Development, 25 West Fourth Street, Suite 1400, Saint Paul, MN 55102. Applications will be reviewed and applicants will be notified of funding decisions in July 2011.

Although individual homeowner projects do not qualify for Neighborhood STAR funding, proposals to administer housing programs are eligible. For information on a variety of individual housing programs available through the City of Saint Paul Housing Division, please call 651-266-6712.

Neighborhood STAR guidelines and application forms will be available at the workshop, online at www.stpaul.gov/star or by calling 651-266-STAR (7827). For additional information, contact STAR staff: Michele Swanson, 651-266-6574, Beth Ulrich, 651-266-6689 or Bob Hammer, 651-266-6693.

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